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For Immediate Release

March 14, 2006

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Funding included in DCH budget to help clean up meth

LANSING – A provision was included in the budget reported today from the Department of Community Health subcommittee to provide funding assistance for local governments in cleaning up methamphetamine sites, said Sen. Tom George, R-Texas Township.

Local governments will be allowed to apply for money from the \$100,000 available in the methamphetamine cleanup fund. The money will be used to cover administrative costs associated with meth cleanup efforts.

“Providing local governments with additional funding will help alleviate their financial burden when dealing with a meth hazardous waste site,” said George. “It is extremely costly to clean up a meth site and small communities, especially in West Michigan, are struggling financially because of the tremendous numbers of sites being encountered. We hope this will provide some relief to them.”

Meth is a dangerous and addictive drug that is creating an epidemic in Michigan and lawmakers are working on ways to prevent its spread across the state while cleaning up sites already contaminated. Toxic chemicals are produced during the manufacture of meth and clean up costs can be in the tens of thousands of dollars.

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